

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 08335 111010Z

20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 CU-04 NIC-01 SAJ-01 SY-10

USSS-00 A-01 PER-05 DRC-01 OMB-01 /149 W

----- 094376

R 110910Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1533

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 8335

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJ: STUDENT ACTIVITY

REF: SEOUL 8255

1. SPORADIC CAMPUS PROTEST HAS CONTINUED FOLLOWING RELEASE OF ARRESTED STUDENTS DEC 7 (REFTEL). LEADERS OF SNU STUDENT ASSOCIATION MET ON CAMPUS DEC 8 TO WELCOME RELEASED STUDENTS. GROUP PLEDGED TO CONTINUE FIGHT AGAINST "INCONSISTENCIES" IN DEMOCRACY. RADIO EVENING DEC 8 REPORTED THAT RESOLUTION INCLUDED ABOLISHING YUSHIN CONSTITUTION AND CALL FOR NATIONAL REFERENDUM. LATTER DEMANDS WERE NOT REPORTED BY OTHER MEDIA.

2. PRESS REPORTS THAT KYONGPUK UNIVERSITY GENERAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION MET DEC 10, ALSO TO WELCOME RELEASED STUDENTS, AND DEMANDED ESTABLISHMENT REAL DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM, FREEDOM ON CAMPUS, AND FREEDOM OF PRESS. PRESS ALSO REPORTS DEC 10 RALLY BY 80 STUDENTS OF SNU'S COLLEGE OF COMMERCE WHO DEMANDED CHANGE IN REGULATIONS TO PERMIT CAMPUS FREEDOM AND CONSIDERATION OF STUDENT VIEWS IN SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEOUL 08335 111010Z

3. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENTS, EDUCATION MINISTER MIN KWAN-SHIK MET

DEC 10 WITH PRESIDENTS OF LEADING PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES. HIM QUOTED AS SAYING MEETING WAS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON STUDENT PROBLEMS IN AFTERMATH RECENT CAMPUS UNREST. THE PRIME MINISTER IS SCHEDULED TO MEET DEC 13 WITH PRESIDENTS OF ROK UNIVERSITIES.

4. EDUCATION MINISTER IN RADIO BROADCAST DEC 7 PROMISED TO WORK FOR STUDENT FREEDOM BUT QUALIFIED NEW POLICY REMARKS BY STATING THAT NORTH KOREAN THREAT NECESSITATES SOME LIMITATIONS. HE SAID HE WOULD LEAVE CAMPUS ADMINISTRATION TO UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES.

5. COMMENT: RECENTLY SEVERAL PRO-GOVERNMENT SOURCES HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT IN SPITE RECENT POLICY OF MODERATION STUDENTS AND CHRISTIAN LEADERS HAVE CONTINUED TO ATTACK THE GOVERNMENT. EMERGING DEMANDS FOR CHANGING THE CONSTITUTION ARE (CORRECTLY) INTERPRETED AS CLEAR ATTACKS ON THE STRUCTURE ON GOVERNMENT AND PRESIDENT PARK. GOVERNMENT SOURCES INDICATE THAT DEMANDS TO AMEND YUSHIN CONSTITUTION AND FOR REFERENDUM OR NEW ELECTIONS ARE COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE. THEY EXPRESS CONCERN THAT PRESIDENT PARK IF PUSHED TOO STRONGLY MAY REACT TO SUCH DEMANDS BY EXTERME MEASURES OF HIS OWN. THE CLEAR IMPLICATION IS THAT IF STUDENTS AND OTHERS TAKE UNDUE ADVANTAGE OF NEW POLICY OF CONTROLLED MODERATION THE PRESIDENT WILL NOT HESITATE TO TIGHTEN CONTROLS.

6. CURRENT SPATE OF PROTEST ACTIONS IS EVIDENCE OF CONTINUING ORGANIZED STUDENT ACTIVISM EVEN THOUGH SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED.

UNDERHILL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REFORM, PRESS COMMENTS, HUMAN RIGHTS, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, ARRESTS, UNIVERSITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SEOUL08335
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731232/aaaaaxbd.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: SEOUL 8255
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Nov-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <19-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STUDENT ACTIVITY
TAGS: PINT, KS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005